

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 17, 1999      LB 54A, 54, 149, 150, 156, 179, 712, 844  
LR 29, 49, 50

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD:      LB 149 is adopted with the emergency clause. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK:      Thank you, Mr. President. Committee on Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs reports LB 156 to General File and LB 712 to General File with amendments, LB 844 indefinitely postponed. Enrollment and Review reports LB 150 and LB 179 to Select File. I have a hearing notice, Mr. President, from the Revenue Committee. And, Mr. President, LR 49 by Senator Jensen, an interim study resolution to be referred to the Board; LR 50 by Senator Schrock congratulating the Loomis boys basketball team, to be laid over; and Senator Jensen has amendments to LR 29 to be printed, Mr. President. That's all that I have. (See pages 1032-1039 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD:      Thank you, Mr. Clerk. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LB 149. Mr. Clerk, General File appropriation bill.

CLERK:      Mr. President, LB 54A by Senator Brashear. (Read title.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD:      Senator Brashear to open on LB 54A.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      Mr. President, members of the body, Legislative Bill 54A provides funds for additional responsibilities being undertaken by the state in LB 54. Specifically, the state would pay for interpreters for the deaf or hard of hearing and persons unable to communicate in English in all judicial proceedings. Current law provides that such interpreters are paid by the county in which such proceedings take place. LB 54 is now on Final Reading and, as amended, the state will pay for the interpreters for court appearances, presentence investigations, and ongoing supervision by a probation officer. The amount of General Funds for Fiscal '99-2000 is \$437,857, and for 2000-2001 it's 407,000. This is necessary to due process and equal protection of the law. I think it's entirely appropriate. I would urge the advancement of the A bill that it can join LB 54 on Final Reading. Thank you.